

IN THE CLAIMS

Please add the following claims:

-- 20. A process for increasing the pigmentation of the skin; flesh or egg yolk of fowl comprising feeding said fowl a yeast of claim 10 in disrupted form in sufficient amount to increase the pigmentation of said skin, flesh or egg yolk of said fowl.

21. A process for the production of a yeast having an enhanced astaxanthin content comprising subjecting said yeast to growth in the presence of a metabolic pathway inhibitor under an influence which triggers a secondary respiratory (oxidative) pathway.

22. A process as in claim 21, wherein said metabolic pathway inhibitor is a main respiratory pathway inhibitor.

23. A process as in claim 22, wherein the main respiratory pathway inhibitor is present in an amount of from 0.1 to 1.0 μM .

24. A process as in claim 22, wherein the main respiratory pathway inhibitor is antimycin.

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25. A process as in claim 21, wherein said influence which triggers a secondary respiratory pathway is light.

26. A process for the production of a yeast having an enhanced astaxanthin content comprising subjecting yeast obtained according to claim 1 to growth in the presence of a main respiratory pathway inhibitor and in the presence of an agent or under the influence of an environmental condition which triggers a secondary respiratory (oxidative) pathway.

27. A process for the production of a yeast of genus P. rhodozyma having an enhanced astaxanthin content comprising inducing an alternative oxidase system by means of growing the yeast in the presence of a main respiratory pathway inhibitor and in the presence of an agent or under the influence of an environmental condition which triggers a secondary respiratory pathway. --